

Your Child is
Scheduled for:

Interview Date:

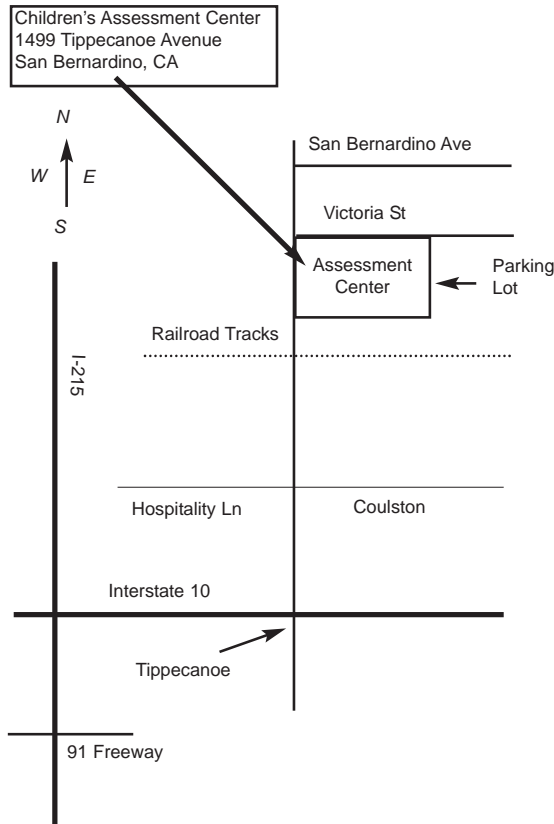
Interview Time:

Medical Exam Date:

Medical Exam Time:

Referring Agency:

Referred By:



Children's Fund
Assessment Center



1499 S. Tippecanoe St
San Bernardino, CA
92415
(909) 478-1050



The Children's Assessment Center

The Children's Assessment Center provides a neutral, child-friendly place for children and teens to receive services about reported child abuse. These services can include an Interview, Medical Exam, Counseling referrals and Crisis Intervention. When arriving at the center parents may be asked and meet with the interview specialist, social worker, and law enforcement to discuss your child's case. If you need to bring other children with you, please bring another adult to supervise in the lobby while you meet the interviewer or doctor.



The Interview Process

The Interview is conducted by the interview specialist with the child in a child-friendly interview room. Police officers, social workers, and other professionals can observe the interview through a one-way mirror. Parents are not allowed in the observation room to ensure the confidentiality of the investigation. While the child is being interviewed, parents are invited to meet with a representative for Victim Services and/or Sexual Assault Services.

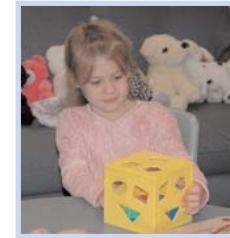
The Medical Exam



When it is suspected your child has been abused, a medical exam may be requested. Parents or Guardians are encouraged to accompany their child into the medical exam; the pediatrician may have some medical history questions for you to answer. Specially trained female pediatricians perform all medical exams. Your child's exam will be like a regular doctor's check up in many ways with some extra time spent on the injured areas. The center does **NOT** give any shots. The exam will identify any medical conditions or trauma which must be treated, collect and document evidence if present, and most importantly assure your child he or she is physically unharmed or that any injury will be treated. Sexually abused victims will be examined using a colposcope, which helps the examiner see the genital and anal areas. This exam is **NOT** like a woman's pap exam, the exam is a looking only exam with nothing being inserted into the child.

Prepare Your Child

Children should be told they are going to a special place where they can talk with someone about what happened to them. In this special place, children are not in any trouble and are encouraged to tell the truth about everything that happened to them. It is important not to talk to your child about what happened unless your child brings it up and wants to talk about it. If this occurs, listen and support your child, but please refrain from questioning your child.



After the Exam and Interview

You will be able to talk to the doctor and a member of the team who observed the interview (law enforcement officer or social worker). They will tell you in general terms what they learned from the interview and medical examination. **Again, do not question your child about the details of the interview.** It is important to maintain the level of trust established between your child and the interviewer. Keep in mind, it is not the child or parent who decides whether or not to prosecute; it is up to the District Attorney's office. Should the case be filed by the District Attorney's office, your child may still have to go to court to testify.

